

# The need to develop training programmes in Health Informatics for Africa

*Sedick Isaacs*

Availability of courses and the need to go elsewhere

## *The nature of learning*

**Culture** and human knowledge

IT has a larger social component than say physics

**Prior knowledge**

Mental models, traditional views plays a part in the acquisition of knowledge

**Language** : “ The individual’s whole experience is built upon the plan of his language:” - *Henri Delacroix*

## Acquiring a profession

More than just the acquisition of technical knowledge and skill  
.. It is the selective acquisition of values, interest of the group they seek to become a member ..” Merton

A curriculum is not a list of items to be learnt but a programme of tasks, material and resources from which the student will construct his own knowledge

Acquiring a profession is therefore a ‘socialization’ process with the faculty as the agency

There are studies which traces attitude changes in the process of becoming a physician based on Educational philosophies of respective medical schools

## Re-socialialization on return

Will there be a discord. The newly socialized professional might want to remain in the culture where he was socialized

Cultural differences in HIS implementation as an example

## **Cultural factors in HIS implementation**

HIS implementation in the Western Cape

## The spectrum of Health Informatics



Country needs

# Commodification of Education